

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 EUR-25 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

IO-14 DRC-01 /217 W

----- 048825

R 031200Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSULL LUBUMBASHI

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1413

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMCONSUL KISANGANI

UNCLAS LUBUMBASHI 0431

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EIND, EFIN, EMIN, EGEN, CG

SUBJECT: NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES

1. INTERIM REGIONAL COMMISSIONER LOPOSSO CONVOKED
LOCAL CONSULAR CORPS 1700 HOURS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1.

2. COMMISSIONER REFERRED TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S ECONOMIC MEASURES ANNOUNCED EARLIER THAT DAY AND ASKED THAT CONSULS BE FAITHFUL INTERPRETERS OF THESE MEASURES TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES. PARTICULARLY ASKED THAT COMMUNITIES STAY CALM, CONTINUE WITH THEIR BUSINESS AND NOT UNDERTAKE QTE ECONOMIC SABOTAGE UNQTE, SUCH AS CREATION OF SHORTAGES. SAID ALL SHOULD AWAIT RECEIPT OF IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONS WHICH HOPEFULLY WOULD BE SOON FORTHCOMING.

3. CHARACTORIZED MEASURES AS LEGITIMATE ATTEMPT, COMPARABLE TO SIMILAR ACTIONS TAKEN IN OTHER DEVELOPED
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AND UNDER-EQUIPPED COUNTRIES, TO RE-ASSUME FOR ZAIRIANS

DIRECTION OF THEIR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS.

4. IN QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION, CITOYEN LOPOSSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT BELGIAN ENTERPRISES WERE A PRIMARY TARGET OF THESE MEASURES. MADE SPECIFIC POINT THAT PRESIDENT HAD EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS WHICH SOUGHT TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE OBJECTIVELY THE ZAIRIAN SOUL AND REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY. ALSO RECALLED PRESIDENT HAD SPECIFICALLY COMMENDED NEW AMERICAN INVESTMENT PROGRAMS IN ZAIRE FOR PLANNING AND RAPID ACTION.

5. COMMENT: TOO EARLY TO ASSESS WHAT EFFECT THIS ATTEMPT AT REASSURING VERY NERVOUS FOREIGN COMMUNITY WILL HAVE.

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